

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MANILA 07910 150716Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /072 W
-----102665 150808Z /10
R 150639Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5726

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 07910

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, RP
SUBJECT: MILITARY RECOMMENDS AMNESTY FOR 507 DETAINEES

1. SUMMARY: A MILITARY AMNESTY COMMISSION HAS RECOMMENDED AMNESTY FOR 507 DETAINEES, APPARENTLY UNDER A PROGRAM ANNOUNCED BY PRESIDENT MARCOS LAST AUGUST. NO NAMES ARE AVAILABLE, BUT ONE NEWSPAPER SAYS "MOST" ARE FACING SUBVERSION OR REBELLION CHARGES. ANOTHER 473 AMNESTY APPLICATIONS APPARENTLY ARE AWAITING FURTHER ACTION. END SUMMARY.

2. REPORTS IN "EVENING POST" AND "TIMES JOURNAL" MAY 8 AND 9 SAY THAT A MILITARY AMNESTY COMMISSION HAS FORWARDED TO PRESIDENT MARCOS RECOMMENDATIONS THAT 507 DETAINEES' REQUESTS FOR AMNESTY BE GRANTED. NO NAMES ARE PROVIDED, BUT "TIMES JOURNAL" ASSERTS THAT "MOST OF THE PRISONERS ARE FACING SUBVERSION AND REBELLION CHARGES." PRESS SAYS THE LIST INCLUDES BOTH CURRENT DETAINEES AND THOSE ON TEMPORARY RELEASE. A CHURCH SOURCE WITH ACCESS TO INFORMATION FROM DETENTION CENTERS TOLD EMBOFF MAY 11 SHE HAD HEARD NOTHING FROM "INSIDE" INDICATING MAJOR RELEASES ARE EXPECTED SOON.

3. APPARENTLY THIS ALL REFERS TO THE MOST RECENT EXTENSION, ANNOUNCED BY PRESIDENT MARCOS IN AUGUST 1977 AT THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MANILA 07910 150716Z

MANILA WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW CONFERENCE, OF PD'S 95 AND 124, OFFERING AMNESTY TO MUSLIMS AND SUSPECTED SUBVERSIVES. THE REVISED DEADLINE FOR FILING APPLICATIONS WAS DECEMBER 31. THE PRESS REPORTS SAY 980 DETAINEES APPLIED FOR AMNESTY, BUT MANY APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RETURNED FOR FURTHER DOCUMENTATION. PRESS REPORTS ADD THAT 1,646 DETAINEES ("MOSTLY FACING SUBVERSION CHARGES," ACCORDING

TO "TIMES JOURNAL") HAVE BEEN GRANTED AMNESTY UNDER THESE DECREES. WHETHER THIS INCLUDES THE PRESENT 507 IS UNCLEAR.

4. TWO LOCAL COLUMNISTS HAVE COMMENTED OBLIQUELY ON THE REPORT. BATALLA IN "BULLETIN TODAY" MAY 10 USED IT AS SPRINGBOARD TO DISCUSS NECESSARY BALANCE BETWEEN DISCIPLINE AND COMPASSION. GRANADA IN "TIMES JOURNAL" MAY 13 SEEMED TO WANT MORE RELEASES: "WE FIND THE DECISION OF THE MAC HEARTENING. FOR IT IS AN INDICATION THAT THE MILITARY ADMINISTRATORS OF MARTIAL LAW HAVE A CERTAIN TOLERANCE FOR POLITICAL OFFENDERS. AND WE HOPE THIS GOES FARTHER SO THAT POLITICAL OFFENDERS ACCUSED OF MINOR COMMON CRIMES WHICH ACTUALLY WERE PART OF THEIR POLITICAL PROTEST COULD ALSO ENJOY AMNESTY. WE ARE PARTICULARLY THINKING OF THE HUNDRED FACING CHARGES OF SUBVERSION. HOW MANY OF THEM ARE ACTUALLY STILL SUBVERSIVE AFTER LENGTHY DETENTION?" TOUSSAINT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMNESTY, POLITICAL PRISONERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MANILA07910
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780204-1146
Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780559/aaaabxsh.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c3861c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2690401
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY RECOMMENDS AMNESTY FOR 507 DETAINEES
TAGS: SHUM, RP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c3861c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014